ABSOLUTE
SUPERMAN
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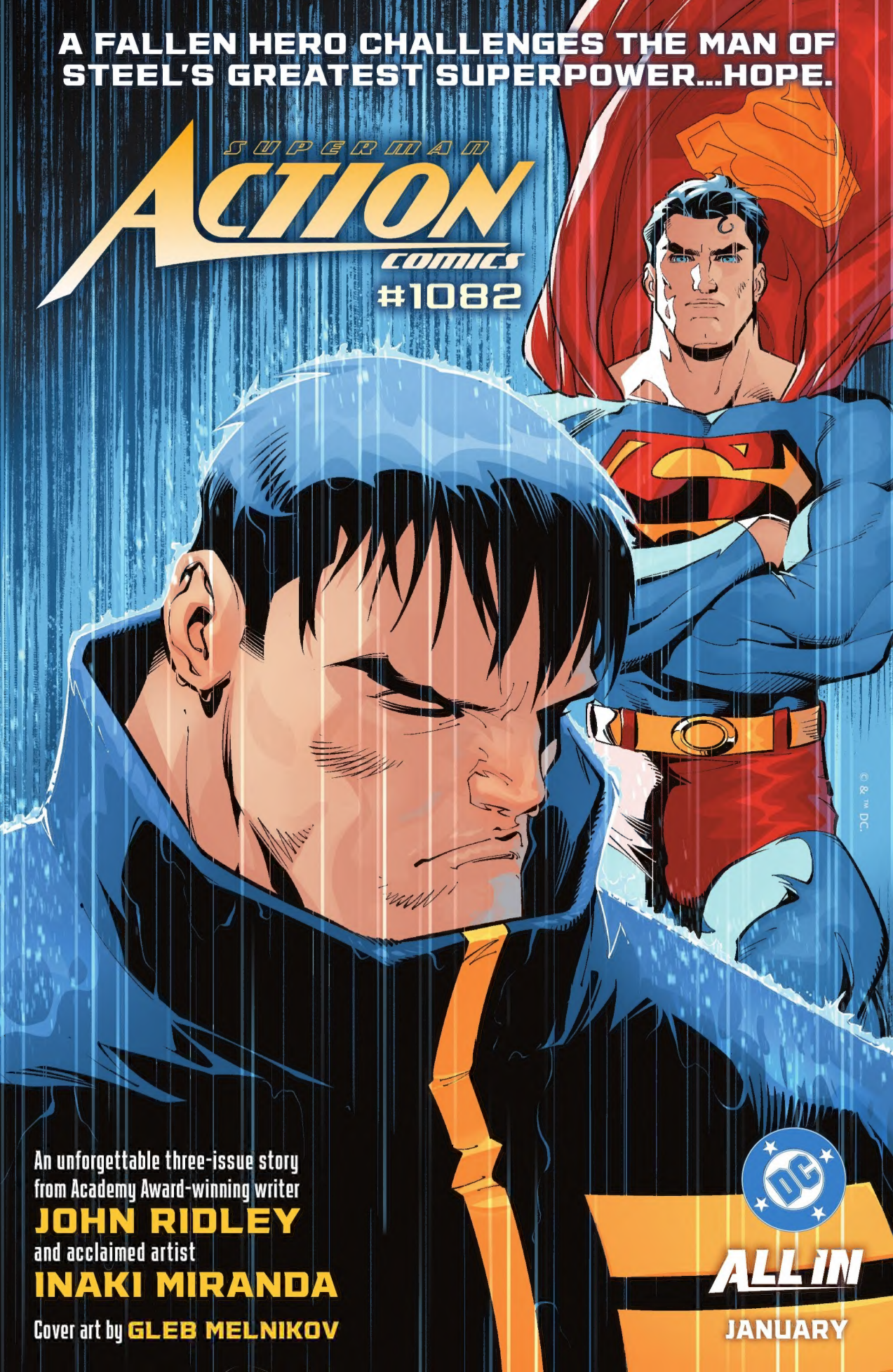
A FALLEN HERO CHALLENGES THE MAN OF STEEL'S GREATEST SUPERPOWER...HOPE.
SUPERMAN
ACTION COMICS
#1082
An unforgettable three-issue story from Academy Award-winning writer
JOHN RIDLEY
and acclaimed artist
INAKI MIRANDA
Cover art by GLEB MELNIKOV
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ALL IN
JANUARY

KRYPTON. SIX YEARS AGO.
AS A CHILD ON KRYPTON, I WAS DEEMED TOO SLOW, TOO "COORDINATION-CHALLENGED" TO QUALIFY FOR THE LAW GUILD TRAINING ACADEMY.
OUTTA THE WAY, RUNT.
SCHOOL WAS ALWAYS...A CHALLENGE FOR ME, SO MY GRADES WERE NEVER GOING TO BE GOOD ENOUGH TO GET ME INTO THE SCIENCE ACADEMY.
KAL-EL, NO ONE CAN HEAR YOUR REPORT.
PLEASE SEE ME AFTER CLASS.
NOT THAT I WANTED THOSE THINGS FOR MYSELF ANYWAY.
I WAS HAPPY IN THE LABOR GUILD.
HAPPY IN THE REDLANDS.
THE ONLY TWO FRIENDS I HAD IN THE WORLD WERE THERE.
AND SINCE I WAS OLD ENOUGH TO WALK, WE'D SPENT OUR DAYS EXPLORING THE PURPLE PRAIRIES AND ROLLING PINK HILLS OF THE KRYPTONIAN COUNTRYSIDE.
THAT WAS WHERE I BELONGED. QUIET, STILL, AS FAR FROM ANY CITY AS YOU COULD GET...

THAT WAS THE ONLY HOME I EVER WANTED.

MOM, DID YOU BRING THE TELENOCS? I BET WE CAN SEE ALL THE WAY TO VEGA FROM OUT HERE.

AFTER WE EAT, KAL.

KAL...

WE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING, SON.

ABOUT WHERE WE'RE GOING *FISHING* TOMORROW? BECAUSE I HEAR THEY HAVEN'T REALLY BEEN BITING MUCH LATELY AT COGO LAKE. SO MAYBE--

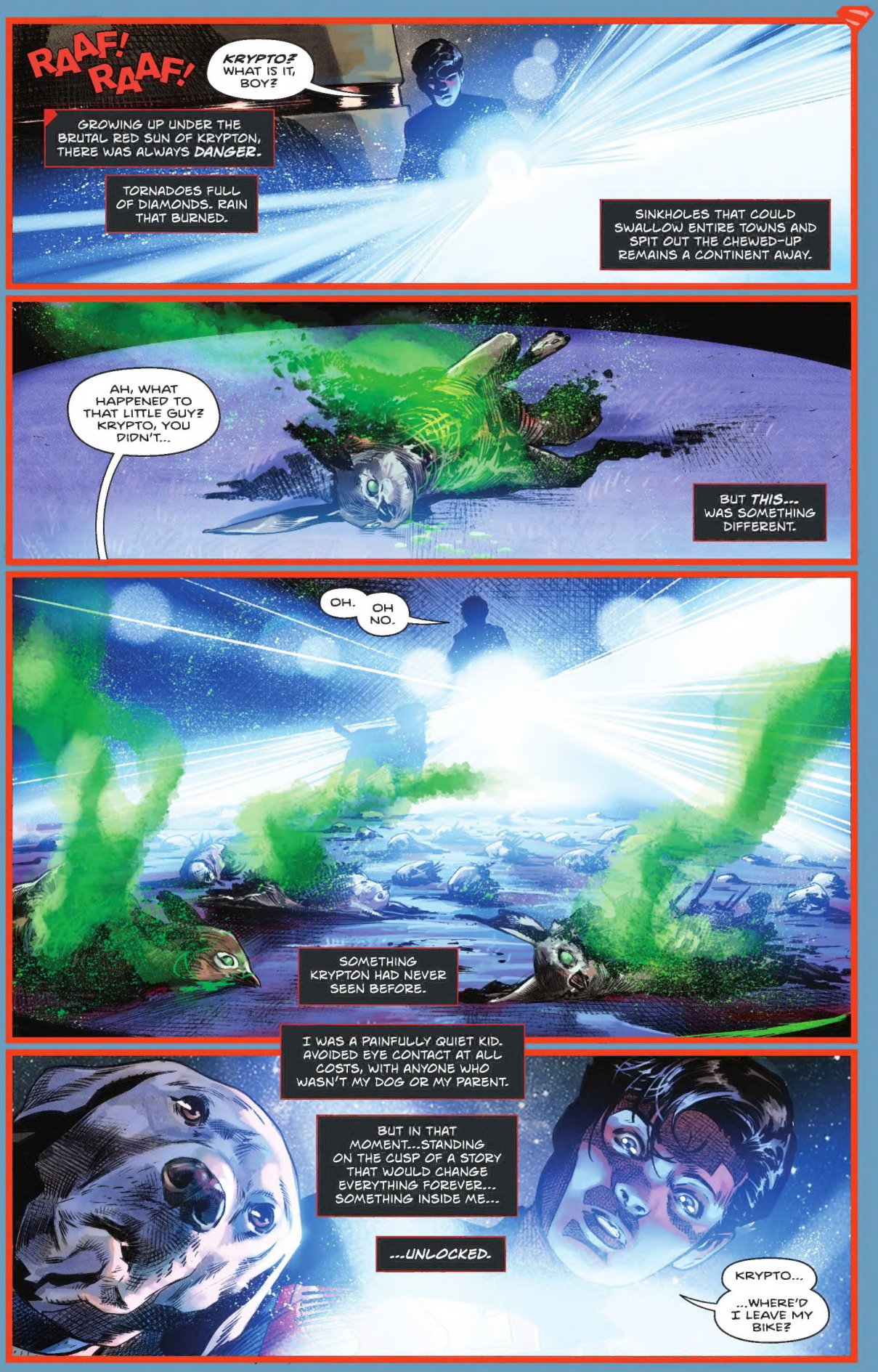
WE HAD A MESSAGE FROM YOUR *TEACHER.*

OH.

SHE SAID YOU'VE BEEN REFUSING TO UTILIZE THE SCIENCE LEAGUE'S *LUMINARIUM* FOR YOUR REPORTS, THAT INSTEAD YOU'RE... WRITING THEM *YOURSELF.*
KAL, YOU UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN YOU DO THAT, YOU'RE CHALLENGING *THREE THOUSAND YEARS* OF KRYPTONIAN TRADITION.
I KNOW. I CAN'T HELP IT.
MY WORDS MAKE ME HAPPY.
THEIRS ARE JUST... *WORDS.*
WELL, IT'S AFFECTING YOUR GRADES AND GETTING YOU INTO TROUBLE AT SCHOOL, AND YOUR MOTHER AND I, WE'VE TALKED ABOUT THIS A LOT.
AND WHEN IT COMES RIGHT DOWN TO IT, WE REALLY HAVE JUST ONE THING TO SAY TO YOU, KAL.
KEEP IT UP.
WHAT? REALLY?
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOUR GRADES SAY. YOU'RE THE SHARPEST, MOST *CARING* KID IN THE WHOLE WORLD. WE TRUST YOU TO FIND YOUR *OWN* PATH.
WE CAN'T TELL YOU IT'LL BE AN EASY ROAD, GOING AGAINST THE WAYS OF THE SCIENCE LEAGUE. YOU KNOW IT WON'T.
BUT YOU HAVE TO CHASE YOUR *PASSION* IN LIFE, KAL-EL. *WHEREVER* IT LEADS YOU.
DO THAT WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AT ALL COSTS, AND I PROMISE YOU...YOU'LL BE *UNSTOPPABLE.*
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANNA DO.
BUT WHATEVER IT IS...I ALREADY KNOW WHERE IT'LL LEAD ME.

RIGHT HERE.
DAD?
DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?
NO, KAL, NOT AT ALL. DAD'S JUST...GOT SOME WORK TO DO.
LET'S GET THE TENT SET UP, OKAY?
WE'D BEEN CAMPING IN THE RAO MOUNTAINS MANY TIMES. BUT SOMETHING WAS DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS TRIP.
MY FATHER SPENT A LOT OF TIME TAKING SAMPLES FROM DEEP WITHIN THE MOUNTAINS.
AND AT NIGHT, I COULD'VE SWORN... I HEARD MY PARENTS SOBBING.

EVER SINCE HIS ACCIDENT AT THE MINE, MY FATHER HAD SEEMED DISTANT. DISTRACTED.
IN THE DAYS AFTER OUR TRIP TO THE RAOS, MY PARENTS BECAME CONSUMED WITH THEIR WORK. MORE SO THAN EVER BEFORE.
MOM WAS ALWAYS IN HER GARAGE. BUILDING SOMETHING.
AND WHEN DAD WASN'T AT THE MINE...HE SEEMED TO BE BRINGING HIS WORK HOME WITH HIM.
WE'RE GONNA NEED MORE SUNSTONE. JUST TO BE SURE.
LARA... WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
THE PROOF I'VE GATHERED...IT'S IRREFUTABLE. AND WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN... IT COULD BE MONTHS FROM NOW. OR IT COULD BE DAYS.
WE CAN'T WAIT. I HAVE TO TAKE MY FINDINGS TO THE SCIENCE LEAGUE. ALONG WITH YOUR DESIGN.
I KNOW, JOR. I KNOW YOU HAVE TO TRY. AND I LOVE YOU FOR IT. BUT WHEN THE KLERICS LAUGH YOU OUT OF THE BUILDING...OR CONDEMN YOU AS A HERETIC...
...AND THEN COME HERE TO TAKE EVERYTHING WE'VE BUILT...I NEED TO KNOW THAT WE'LL BE DONE TRYING TO REASON WITH THE PEOPLE WHO DON'T RESPECT OUR RIGHT TO HAVE A VOICE.
LARA, YOU--
RAAF!


RAAF! RAAF!
KRYPTO? WHAT IS IT, BOY?
GROWING UP UNDER THE BRUTAL RED SUN OF KRYPTON, THERE WAS ALWAYS DANGER.
TORNADOES FULL OF DIAMONDS. RAIN THAT BURNED.
SINKHOLES THAT COULD SWALLOW ENTIRE TOWNS AND SPIT OUT THE CHEWED-UP REMAINS A CONTINENT AWAY.
AH, WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT LITTLE GUY? KRYPTO, YOU DIDN'T...
BUT THIS... WAS SOMETHING DIFFERENT.
OH. OH NO.
SOMETHING KRYPTON HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
I WAS A PAINFULLY QUIET KID. AVOIDED EYE CONTACT AT ALL COSTS, WITH ANYONE WHO WASN'T MY DOG OR MY PARENT.
BUT IN THAT MOMENT...STANDING ON THE CUSP OF A STORY THAT WOULD CHANGE EVERYTHING FOREVER... SOMETHING INSIDE ME...
...UNLOCKED.
KRYPTO...
...WHERE'D I LEAVE MY BIKE?

ACROSS THE REDLANDS, FARMERS' CROPS WERE DYING.

WITHERING AWAY OVERNIGHT, FOR REASONS THEY COULDN'T EXPLAIN.

ANIMALS WERE BEHAVING STRANGELY.

HERDS OF ZUURTS WERE SEEN STAMPEDING THEMSELVES OFF CLIFFS.

ALL FISHING HAD STOPPED IN COGO LAKE.

PEOPLE WERE SAYING THAT THE FIREFALLS HAD BECOME A RAGING INFERNO AND THAT THE VOLCANOES OF OLO, WHICH HAD SPEWED GOLD FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS...WERE COVERED WITH **GOLDEN SCABS.**

PEARL DIVERS ALONG THE DANDAHU COAST WERE SAID TO BE FLOATING TO THE SURFACE, **BOILED ALIVE.**

IF SOMETHING WAS SICK INSIDE THE PLANET, IT WOULD MAKE SENSE...THAT THE FIRST PEOPLE TO FEEL THE PAIN...

...WOULD BE THE ONES WITH THEIR HANDS IN THE **DIRT.**

BUT ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL SCIENCE LEAGUE NEWS FEED, THIS WAS NOTHING UNUSUAL.
WHOA. LOOK AT THAT.
NATURAL GAS LEAKS, THEY SAID. AN ISOLATED PROBLEM.
NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN.
A WEEK AFTER I WENT CAMPING IN THE MOUNTAINS, MY CLASS TOOK THE TRAIN TO KANDOR FOR A FIELD TRIP.
ALONG THE WAY, I STARTED TO PUT IT ALL INTO WRITING. EVERYTHING I'D SEEN ACROSS THE REDLANDS.
THE WORDS FLOWED OUT OF ME ALMOST AS FAST AS I COULD TYPE THEM.
BEFORE I COULD THINK TO STOP MYSELF...I'D SUBMITTED MY STORY TO THE SCHOOL'S NEWS BOARD.

BY THE TIME WE REACHED KANDOR, THE STORY HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM THE BOARD...
...ALL NOTES DELETED REMOTELY FROM MY TABLET... AND AN APPOINTMENT SET FOR MY PARENTS TO SEE THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR.
WE'D NEVER MAKE IT TO THAT MEETING.
WELCOME TO THE HALLS OF HIGH WISDOM, CHILDREN.
WHERE I IMAGINE MANY OF YOU HOPE TO BE WORKING ONE DAY. AM I RIGHT?
WHO HERE WANTS TO APPLY TO THE SCIENCE LEAGUE WHEN YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH?
WELL, COME ON AND LET'S SEE WHERE KRYPTON'S GREATEST MINDS DO THEIR WORK.
WHERE ARE ALL THE KLERICS?
AH, THEY'RE OFF DOING OFFICIAL SCIENCE BUSINESS TODAY. NO MORE QUESTIONS. COME ALONG, CHILDREN!
WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO WORK THIS FAR FROM THE GROUND?
NO, I HAVE TO SEE THEM! TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME!

YOU HAVE TO LISTEN, DAMN IT! I'M A GEOLOGICAL ENGINEER! I KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!
YOUR LIVES ARE ALL IN DANGER!
DAD?
SCIENTIFIC HERESY. THREATENING OFFICERS OF THE LAW GUILD. YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN TO QUIT, DO YOU, LABORER? LET'S GO.
YOU CAN'T DO THIS! I HAVE TO TALK TO THE KLERICS!
DAD!
KAL?!
DAD, WHAT'S HAPPENED?! WHERE ARE THEY TAKING YOU?!
KAL, GET OUT OF HERE! GO HOME! TELL YOUR MOTHER--
GGURGGH!
I DON'T THINK I'D EVER RAISED MY VOICE BEFORE THAT MOMENT.
NO! GET AWAY FROM MY DAD!
MY FIST CLENCHED SO TIGHT IT THROBBED. I WAS ENRAGED AND WILDLY CONFUSED, AND YET SOMEHOW...

...NOTHING IN MY ENTIRE LIFE HAD EVER SEEMED SO CLEAR.
RRRRRGH!
SMAK
GET OUTTA HERE, KID.
UUGH!
I WAS HELPLESS. I WATCHED AND WEPT AS THEY DRAGGED MY FATHER AWAY.
AFTER THAT...THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING I COULD DO.
MOOOOOM!

LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY, KAL. I WANT YOU WITH ME FOR THIS. BUT IF ANYTHING GOES WRONG, YOU GET ON YOUR BIKE AND YOU COME BACK HERE AS FAST AS YOU CAN.
AND YOU GO STRAIGHT INTO THE GARAGE AND CALL FOR SOL, OKAY?
OKAY. WHO'S SOL?
I'M GONNA GET YOUR DAD BACK.
HELLO, I AM SOL. HOW CAN I BE OF SERV--
NEVER MIND THAT NOW. JUST DO WHAT I ASKED, KAL-EL.
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO, MOM?
THE CENTRAL LAW GUILD OFFICE IN KANDOR.
JOR-EL? LOUDMOUTH MINER FROM THE REDLANDS? YEAH, HE'S HERE. BEING HELD ON SUSPICION OF HERESY.
THIS HIS KID? THE ONE WHO THINKS HE'S A WRITER? WE GOT CHARGES FOR HIM TOO. WHY DON'T YOU BOTH JUST COME WITH--

CHOOOM
JOR-EL! WHERE ARE YOU?!
FIND HIM, KRYPTO!
RAWF!
ONE ASSAILANT! AND HER DOG! GUN APPEARS TO FIRE SOME SORT OF PROJECTILE THAT--
IT'S LAVA! HER GUN SHOOTS LAVA! GET THIS ARMOR OFF ME!
JUDGMENT HAS BEEN EXPEDITED. THE LUMINARIUM DECLARES...GUILTY ON ALL CHARGES. PROCEED TO SENTENCING.
COPY THAT.
COMMENCING LETHAL INJECTION.

UUUGHH!
HOLY... WHAT IS...
RAWF!
KRYPTO?!
WHERE'S LARA? DON'T TELL ME SHE...
HSSSSSSS
CHOOM
CHOOM
CHOOM

GUESS THE SUIT WORKS.
YOU'RE AN IDIOT.
LET'S GO HOME, MY LOVE.
WAIT...

"WHERE'S KAL?"
UUUGH...
HEY.
TELL ME YOUR LOG-IN CODE, AND I'LL ASK MY MOM NOT TO SHOOT YOU ANYMORE.
MY MOTHER WAS MARCHING THROUGH THE CENTRAL LAW OFFICES OF KANDOR, BLASTING AWAY. THE PLACE SHOULD HAVE BEEN SWARMING WITH SHOCK TROOPS AND JUDGE GENERALS.
WHY WASN'T IT?
NO LAW GUILDSMEN. NO KLERICS IN THEIR TOWERS. WHERE WERE THE RULING CLASSES OF KRYPTON?
WHOA.
STARSHIPS? SINCE WHEN DO THE KLERICS CARE ABOUT SPACE...
OH.
OH MY RAO.
KAL! WE ARE LEAVING, NOW!

THE WHOLE WAY HOME, I COULD SEE THEM TRYING TO FIGURE OUT THE RIGHT WORDS.
THE BEST WAY TO BREAK THE NEWS TO ME.
IN THE END...THEY DIDN'T NEED TO.
KAL... WE'VE BEEN KEEPING AN AWFUL SECRET FROM YOU, SON.
SOMETHING WE DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO TELL YOU. BUT NOW...WELL, WE'RE OUT OF TIME.
BECAUSE... BECAUSE, SON... KRYPTON IS...
KRYPTON IS DYING.
YES, BUT...
KAL, HOW DID YOU--
AND YOU WANT TO SHOOT ME INTO SPACE, TO SAVE ME. ME, ALL ALONE, WEARING MOM'S SPACE SUIT FROM WHEN SHE WAS A KID.
BUT I'M NOT GOING. NOT WITHOUT YOU.
OH, KAL...YOU AMAZING KID.
YOU'RE MOSTLY RIGHT.
WE'D NEVER SHOOT YOU INTO SPACE BY YOURSELF.

WE'RE GOING *TOGETHER.*
OUR COUSINS, OUR NEIGHBORS. AS MANY KRYPTONIANS AS WE CAN HOLD.
I ONLY WISH THE SHIP WAS BIG ENOUGH FOR THE WHOLE PLANET.
BUT THE SCIENCE LEAGUE WOULDN'T EVEN SEE YOU, JOR? IT FIGURES, THEY DON'T WANT TO KNOW WHAT--
THEY ALREADY KNOW.

WHAT?
THEY'VE BEEN SECRETLY BUILDING SHIPS. POURING EVERY RESOURCE THEY HAVE INTO IT. ENOUGH SHIPS TO CARRY THE *UPPER CLASSES* OFF-WORLD.
ONLY THE UPPER CLASSES.
THEY...THEY DON'T WANT ANYONE ELSE TO KNOW. THAT THE PLANET...THE ENTIRE PLANET'S GOING TO...
WHERE ARE YOU SEEING THIS?
THE STORY'S *EVERYWHERE.* ALL OVER THE LUMINARIUM.
IT WENT LIVE JUST A SHORT TIME AGO. UPLOADED DIRECTLY FROM...
FROM THE CENTRAL LAW GUILD OFFICE IN KANDOR.
SO...
...*WHERE* ARE WE GOING?

CENTRAL KANSAS. NOW.
"GOD, IT'S SO SAD.
SMALLVILLE SENIOR LIVING
SHE'S WITHERING AWAY, DAY AFTER DAY. AND SHE NEVER STOPS ASKING FOR HER SON.
HAVE WE TRIED CONTACTING THE NEXT OF KIN?
THAT'S THE THING. SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY.
AND ACCORDING TO HER RECORDS...SHE NEVER HAD ANY CHILDREN.
ANGEL.
WHERE DID...WHERE DID YOU GO?
FLY BACK TO ME.
MY SWEET ANGEL BOY.
BACK TO WHERE YOU BELONG.
NEXT: THE COMING OF THE OMEGA MEN!

ABSOLUTE SUPERMAN

JASON AARON *WRITER*
RAFA SANDOVAL *ARTIST*
ULISES ARREOLA *COLORIST*
BECCA CAREY *LETTERER*

RAFA SANDOVAL & ULISES ARREOLA *COVER*

DECLAN SHALVEY, CHRISTIAN WARD, MIKE PERKINS & MIKE SPICER *VARIANT COVERS*

LAST DUST OF KRYPTON

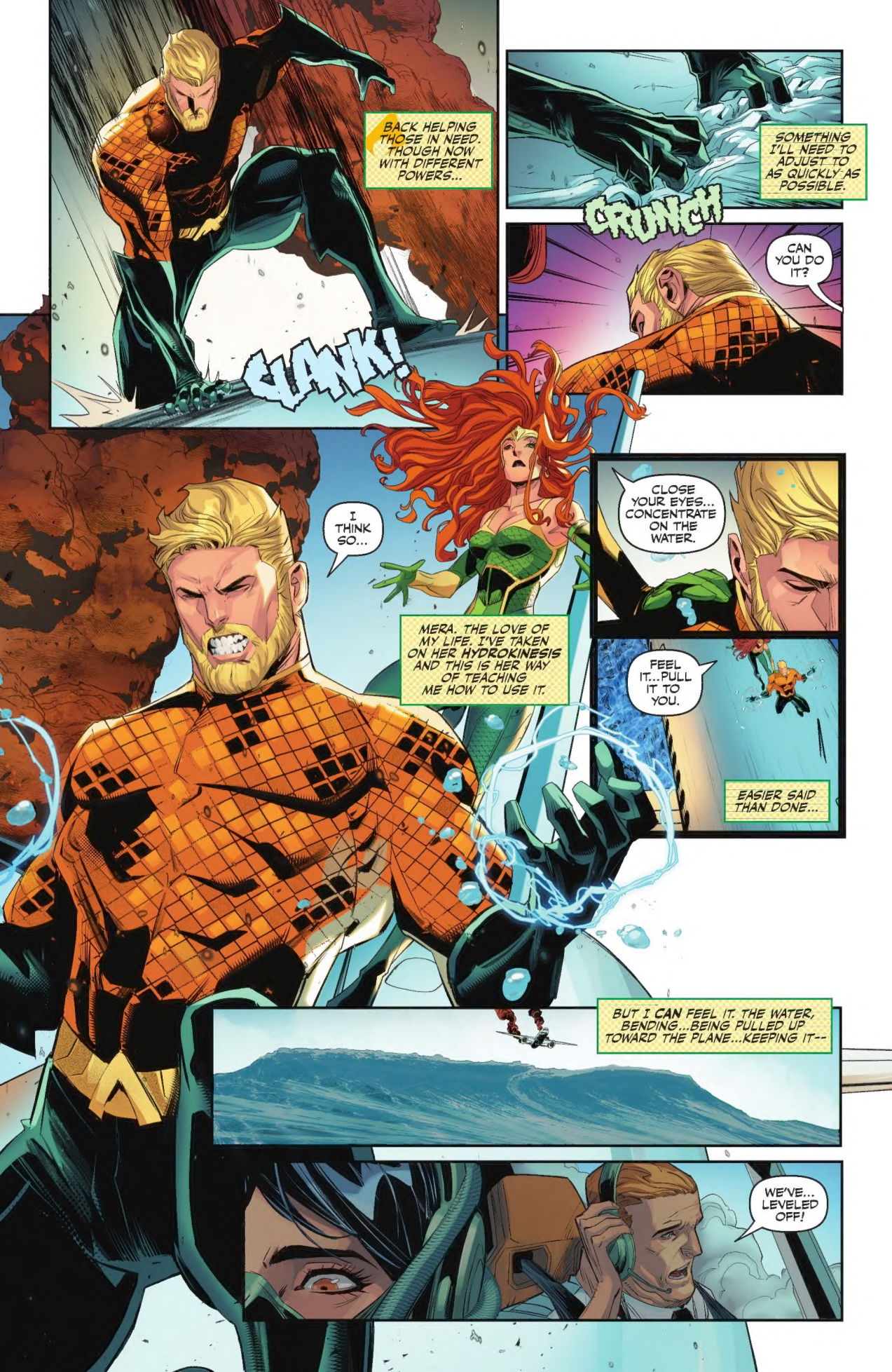
ASH PADILLA
ASSISTANT EDITOR
CHRIS CONROY
EDITOR

PART THREE

BOY FROM THE PURPLE PRAIRIE

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER. BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

AQUAMAN
#1 PREVIEW
Writer JEREMY ADAMS
Artist JOHN TIMMS
Colorist REX LOKUS
Letterer DAVE SHARPE
I'M BACK.
BACK AS KING. BACK AS PART OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE...
FWOOOOSH!


BACK HELPING THOSE IN NEED. THOUGH NOW WITH DIFFERENT POWERS...
YANK!
SOMETHING I'LL NEED TO ADJUST TO AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
CRUNCH
CAN YOU DO IT?
I THINK SO...
MERA. THE LOVE OF MY LIFE. I'VE TAKEN ON HER HYDROKINESIS AND THIS IS HER WAY OF TEACHING ME HOW TO USE IT.
CLOSE YOUR EYES... CONCENTRATE ON THE WATER.
FEEL IT...PULL IT TO YOU.
EASIER SAID THAN DONE...
BUT I CAN FEEL IT. THE WATER, BENDING...BEING PULLED UP TOWARD THE PLANE...KEEPING IT--
WE'VE... LEVELED OFF!

GOOD, ARTHUR... GOOD.

IT FEELS GOOD. IT FEELS RIGHT...

NOW YOU JUST HAVE TO TAKE IT DOWN...

TO BE CONTINUED IN **AQUAMAN #1**
ON SALE IN JANUARY!

THE KING IS BACK, BABY!

AQUAMAN

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WRITER
JEREMY ADAMS
AND ARTIST
JOHN TIMMS
DIVE INTO A NEW ERA OF ADVENTURE!

GO ALL IN THIS JANUARY

DC
ALL IN

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON ALL IN

AQUAMAN

INTERVIEW WITH JEREMY ADAMS

The king is back, baby! *Aquaman* stars in an all-new solo series as part of DC's All In initiative, from writer Jeremy Adams and artist John Timms. Here's word direct from Adams on why this isn't Aquaman business as usual.

Where do we find Aquaman at the start of this series?

Post Absolute Power, Atlantis is in disarray, so Arthur has reassumed his role as king in order to get the Atlantean house in order. On top of that, he's switched certain powers with Mera, giving him the ability to manipulate water, which...he doesn't really have the hang of...yet!

What kind of role do Mera and Jackson Hyde play in this series? Do we meet any new allies?

I can't really answer about Mera and Jackson... they do appear in issue one, and then after that...well...

As far as *other* allies. There will be many new and old characters that might appear as Arthur goes through the Blue.

What can you share about the threats Aquaman will face, and how will they change his status quo?

In our first issue we'll see him face off with a water kaiju, but that isn't going to be the worst of it. Water kaiju, mermaids, pirates...it's going to be wild.

How is collaborating with John Timms on charting Aquaman's new journey forward?

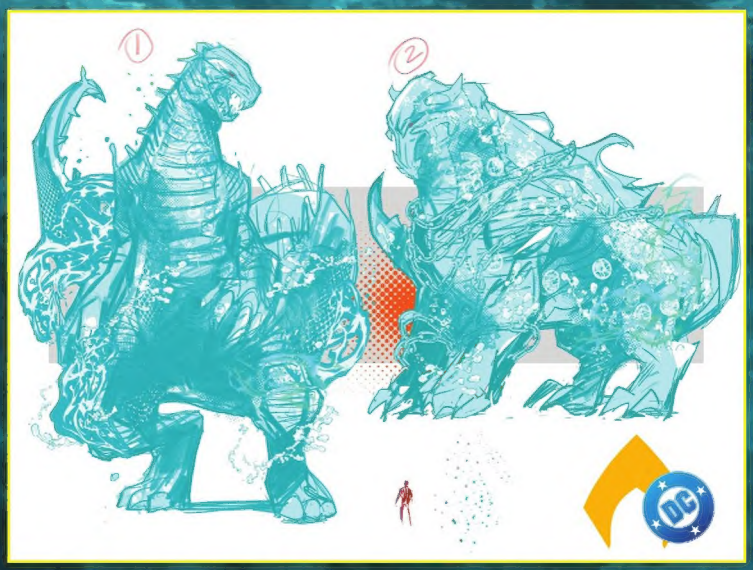
John seems to be the nicest person ever, and with his talent at the level that it is, I have become *extremely jealous* of his very existence. I want him to have fun in this book, so I'm always asking if there's something he wants to do or draw, and I hope we get a *long* run together with the King of Atlantis.

What can fans expect with Aquaman's new powers?

They can expect the unexpected. Hydrokinesis is just the start of a journey that will have long-lasting ramifications.

Which past takes on Aquaman were influential to your take on the character and his mythology?

It's strange, Aquaman has had a variety of continuities and changes, and all of them have created his incredible character that patrols the waters of Earth...but that's going to change. We're embarking on a new mythology...taking him far, far away from what he and everyone else know.



DON'T MISS AQUAMAN #1 ON SALE IN JANUARY!

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